

Mrs Marinelli's Principal Pilgrimage with Fr Gallacher



What is a Pilgrimage?

A pilgrimage is a special trip or journey where you visit holy places - like churches and cathedrals, where you say prayers to become closer to God. In Italy, the special churches are called basilicas or duomos.



What is a Pilgrim?

A pilgrim is a person, like Fr Gallacher and myself, and many thousands of people from around the world, who travel to holy places together.



Who are the pilgrims I travelled

I travelled with Fr Gallacher, Fr Michael, Helena from MASS, and 16 other principals from Melbourne.



This year is a 'Jubilee Year'

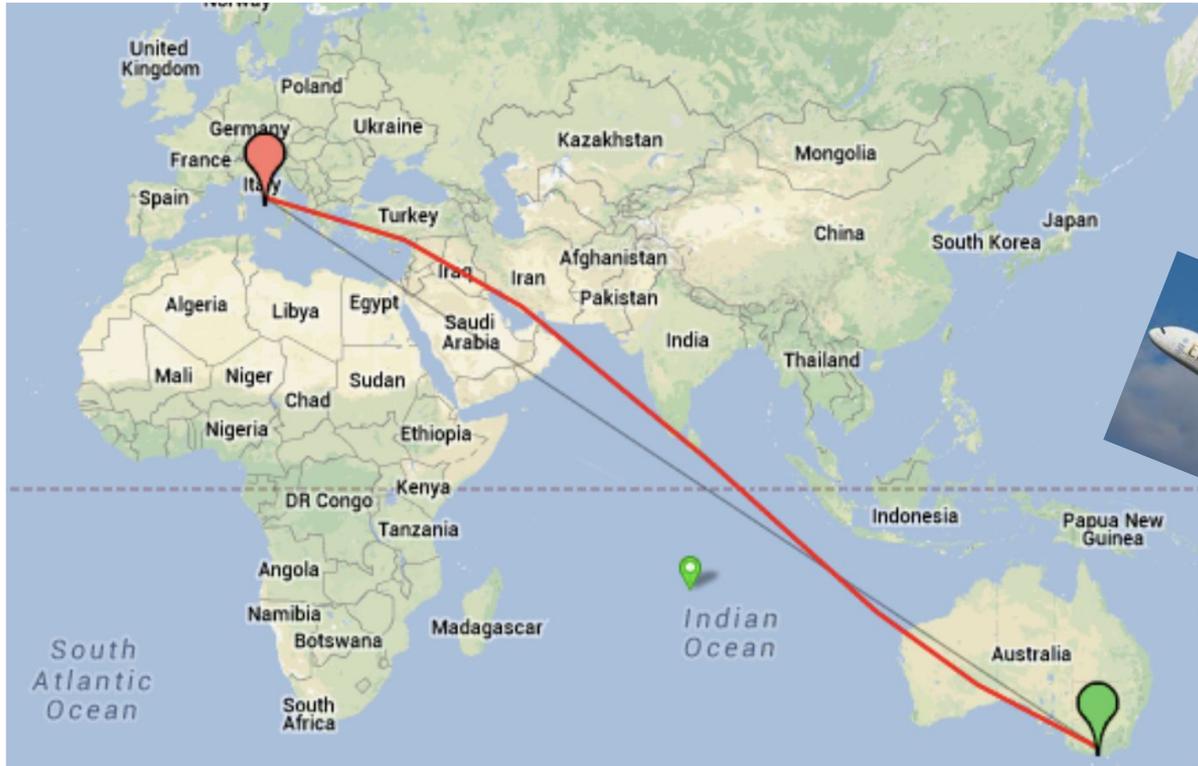


What is a Jubilee Year?

A Jubilee Year, is a special year in the Catholic Church, which is celebrated every 25 years. A Jubilee Year helps us think about having a closer relationship or connection with God.



We travelled from Melbourne to



Rome, Italy



What did we do?

We went to Mass everyday in some very beautiful and sacred places and I said some prayers for all of you. Here Fr Gallacher said Mass in a very holy place under the ground where many saints and popes have been buried a long time ago. These are called the catacombs. This was like a very big underground

cemeterii



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We went to Mass every day in some very beautiful churches and I said some prayers for all of you. Here we joined a Parish from Salerno from the Amalfi Coast in Assisi where we processed in and out of the Papal Basilica of St Mary of the Angels in Assisi, with candles, singing and praying the Rosary in Italian. It was very special and prayerful.



The Vatican and St Peter's

I visited the Vatican and St Peter's Square. The Vatican is known as the world's smallest country in Rome, also known as the place of the head of the Catholic Church.

Square



The Vatican and St Peter's

Thousands of people come to visit Vatican city and St Peter's Square every day. Do you know why? Does anyone know why it is called St Peter's Square? The Popes live in Vatican City.



What does it mean to be a Pope?

A Pope is known as the Bishop of Rome, and the leader of the Catholic Church. The first Pope was Saint Peter, one of Jesus Christ's apostles, who is traditionally regarded as the first Bishop of Rome.

Our current Pope, also known as our Holy Father, is Pope Leo XIV.



Pope Leo XIV



Pope Leo XIV is the head of the Catholic Church. He is the first pope to be born in the United States.

Pope Leo XIV is the 14th Pope to use the name Leo, and he speaks five languages fluently: English, Spanish, Italian, French, and Portuguese. He is the 267th Pope.



Where does the Pope live?



St Peter's Basilica



Holy Doors

A Holy Door is a special entrance to a Catholic church, mainly a basilica, that is only opened during a special Jubilee Year - every 25 years. Walking through a through a Holy Door during a Jubilee year helps you to be closer to God. It is something that pilgrims do on a pilgrimage, as a sign of their faith.



Four Holy Doors

There are 4 Holy Doors in Italy. They are located in the four major papal basilicas in Rome: St. Peter's Basilica, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, and St. Mary Major. On our pilgrimage we walked through each of these Holy Doors.



The Holy Doors



The Holy Doors



The Holy Doors



Carrying the Cross into St Peter's Basilica through the

Holy D



Carrying the Cross into St Peter's Basilica through the



Carrying the Cross into St Peter's Basilica through the



Carrying the Cross into St Peter's Basilica



Papal Audience



The crowd of pilgrims waiting for Pope Leo XIV in St Peter's Square

Papal Audience

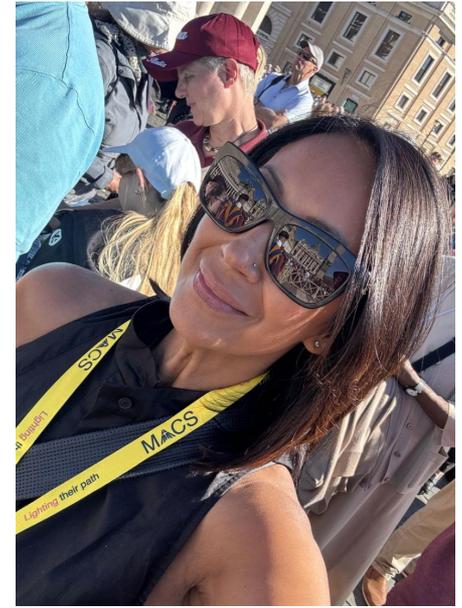


There was so much joy and celebration with people calling out "Papa, Papa" and cheering as he made his way through the crowd. Pope Leo XIV spoke in English to the general public, and he acknowledged the Australian pilgrims in attendance. It was especially moving to hear him lead us in praying the Our Father in Italian with the entire crowd.

Papal Audience



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Pope Leo XIV at Domus Australia

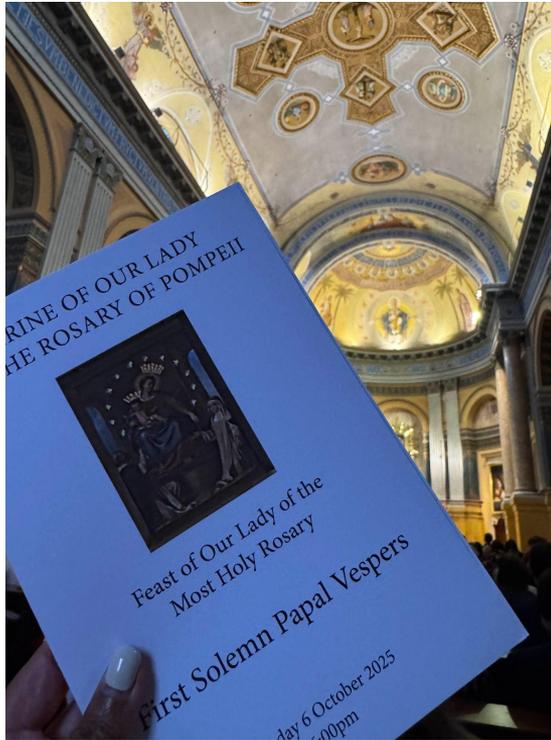
Domus Australia is a special church known for our Australian community. We were invited with a small group of people who had the privilege of watching Pope Leo say a special blessing for a new painting of Our Lady.



Pope Leo XIV at Domus Australia



Pope Leo XIV at Domus Australia





Resting place of Pope Francis

We visited Basilica and The Holy Door at Santa Maria Maggiore - Pope Francis' Resting Place



Resting place of Pope Francis

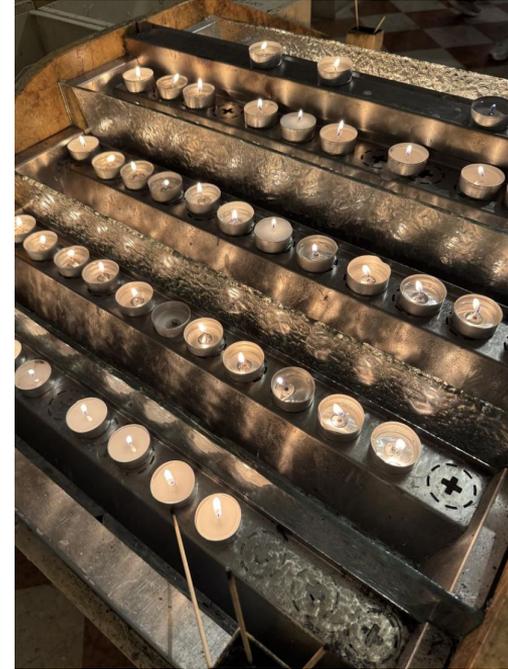


Loreto

The Sanctuary of the Holy House of Loreto is one of the most important Catholic pilgrimage sites in the world, known for its spiritual and historical significance. According to tradition, it houses the Holy House of Nazareth, where the Virgin Mary lived and where she received the Annunciation from the Angel Gabriel.



Loreto



Loreto



Loreto

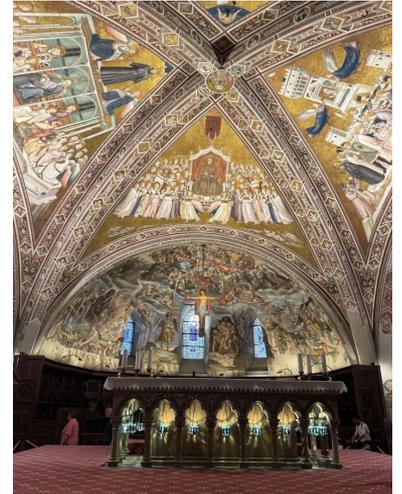
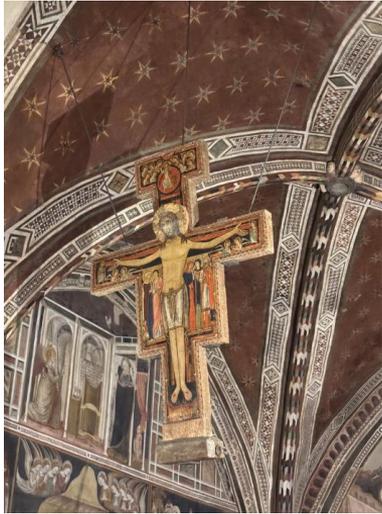


Loreto



Assisi

The Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi is one of the most beautiful and sacred places for pilgrims to visit in the hills of Umbria, in Assisi. During our visit, we spent time exploring the basilica, praying at the tomb of St. Francis.



Assisi



Assisi

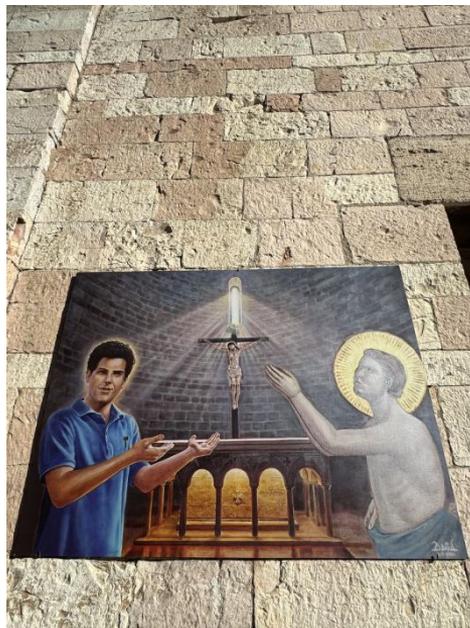


Assisi



Saint Carlo Acutis

One of the most special moments of our time in Assisi was visiting the tomb of Saint Carlo Acutis on his feast day, October 12, located in the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore.



Cascia



Cascia, the home of the Basilica of Santa Rita and the town where the saint lived and is buried. Saint Rita of Cascia is known as the patron saint of impossible causes, a figure of immense faith, and a role model for women.

Cascia



There is also a beautiful painting of Saint Joseph in the basilica, as he is a central figure in the life of the Holy Family and is honoured for his role as the protector.

Cascia



Some other special historical places we visited in Rome



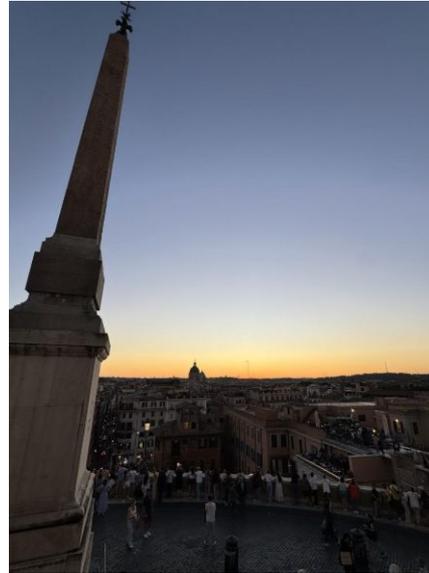
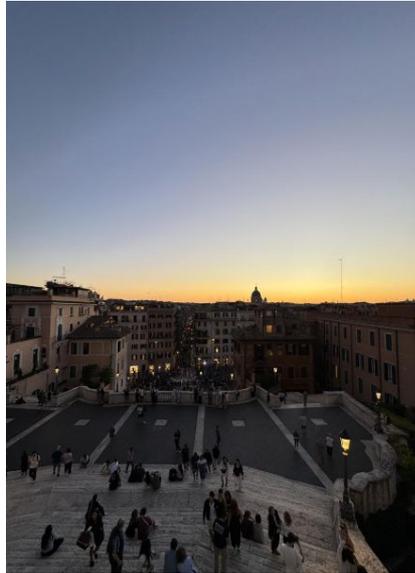
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Italian food we ate



Italian food we ate



Some Italian words we used...



So what happens now after I finish my pilgrimage?

I need to think about ways I can be closer to God and help all of you be closer to God.

How might I do that?



Pope Leo's message

Pope Leo XIV wants us to pray for peace -

Peace in our hearts, peace with our friends,
peace in our families, and peace in our
world.



What can we do to live out Pope Leo's message?



Special medals, prayer cards and rosaries that have been blessed by Pope Leo XIV

When I was in Rome I went to get some very special holy cards and medals of St Joseph and the Holy family. Why do you think I chose these?

On the day we knew we were seeing Pope Leo XIV I took these along with me and Pope Leo blessed them when he gave his blessing to all of us pilgrims.



I have one for each of you to take home